
Building a Green Team

Webinar

October 4, 2018



TEACHERS COLLEGE
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY
A Graduate School of Education, Health & Psychology



Sustainability Trainings 2018/2019

- Lead sustainability focused projects to make a difference in your school
- Collaborate with your fellow colleagues from across the city
- Engage with experts from partner organizations and the Office of Sustainability

Trainings are open to all DOE staff. Teachers may earn CTLE Credits. Lunch provided.

**Wed
Oct
31**

Urban Ecology
10:00 am - 3:00 pm
Brooklyn Borough Hall
120 Joralemon Street, Brooklyn

Advocacy & Environmental Justice
8:00 am - 3:00 pm
New Settlement Community Center
1501 Jerome Avenue, Bronx

**Fri
Nov
9**

**Fri
Dec
7**

Resiliency & Green Infrastructure
8:00 am - 3:00 pm
DOE - Division of School Facilities
44-36 Vernon Boulevard, Queens

Investigating NYC Urban Systems
An exploration of food, water, waste, and energy systems that New Yorkers rely on daily
8:00 am - 3:00 pm
Teachers College, Columbia University
525 West 120 Street, Manhattan

**Fri
Jan
11**

Questions?
For more information, contact Nichelle Hudlin at nhudlin@schools.nyc.gov
Reserve your spot at <http://bit.ly/DOESustainabilityTraining>



Presenters

- NYC DOE Office of Sustainability
 - Jaxie Friedman
 - Joy Rifkin
 - Teachers College, Columbia University
 - Erika Kessler
 - Carine Verschueren
-

We want to know about you!

What is a Green Team?

Green Teams Across NYC

Why Build a Green Team?

How to Sustain a Green Team?

Challenges

**How do you define
a Green Team?**

What is a Green Team?

A group of students, staff and/or community members dedicated to school sustainability through advocacy, awareness and action.





Fannie Lou Hamer Middle School



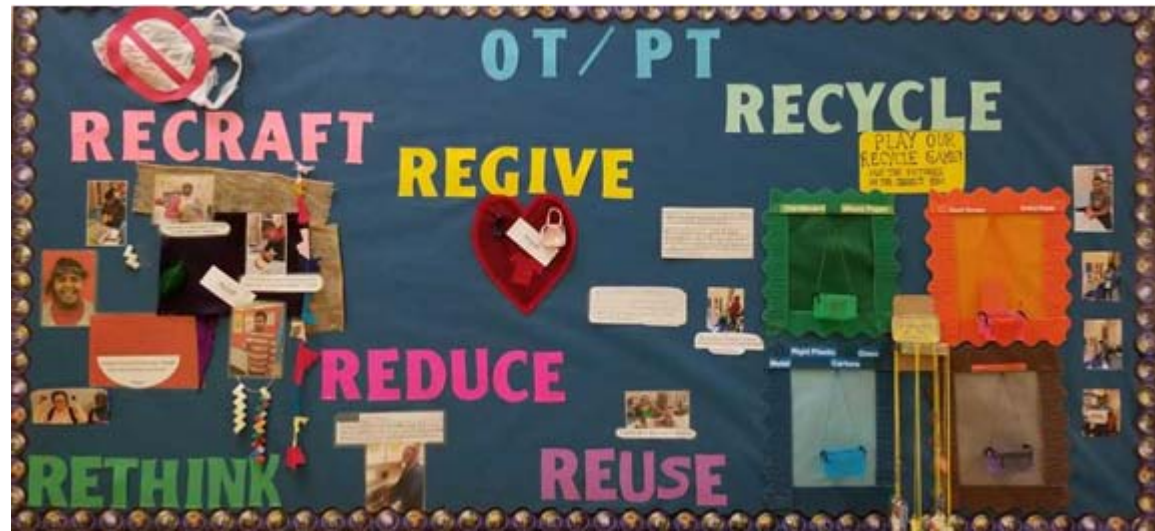
P.S. 155



P.S. 261 Philip Livingston



P.S.721 Manhattan Occupational Training Center



Polls

- a. Who would you include in your green team?
-

Why Build a Green Team?

- Members of a green team show **increased confidence, optimism, acceptance, team cohesion, satisfaction, and dialogue**
- Green Teams become **think tanks, problem-solving units** in schools
- Organizations with a green team are more **advanced and proactive** in sustainability initiatives
- Green Teams spur **broader engagement** in sustainability.

Why Build a Green Team?

Students



School
Community



The
Environment



Teachers



Why Build a Green Team?

Students

- Leadership skills
- Hands-on learning
- Awareness & advocacy
- Purpose & belonging

School Community

- Cleaner school
- School culture of sustainability
- Service-learning
- Action and solution oriented approach

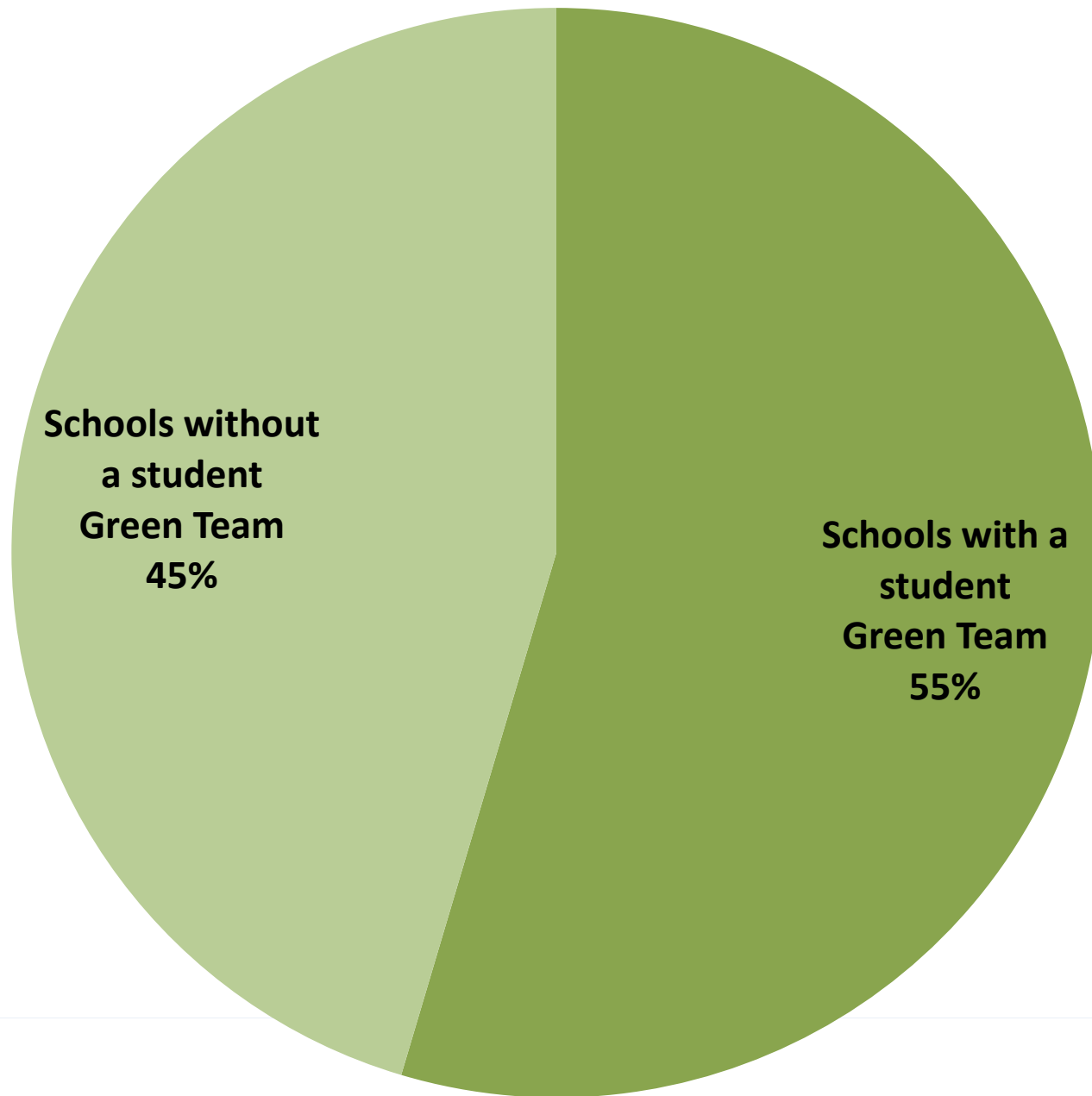
The Environment

- Healthier and cleaner community
- Energy and waste reduction
- Contribution to a cleaner city and OneNYC

Teachers

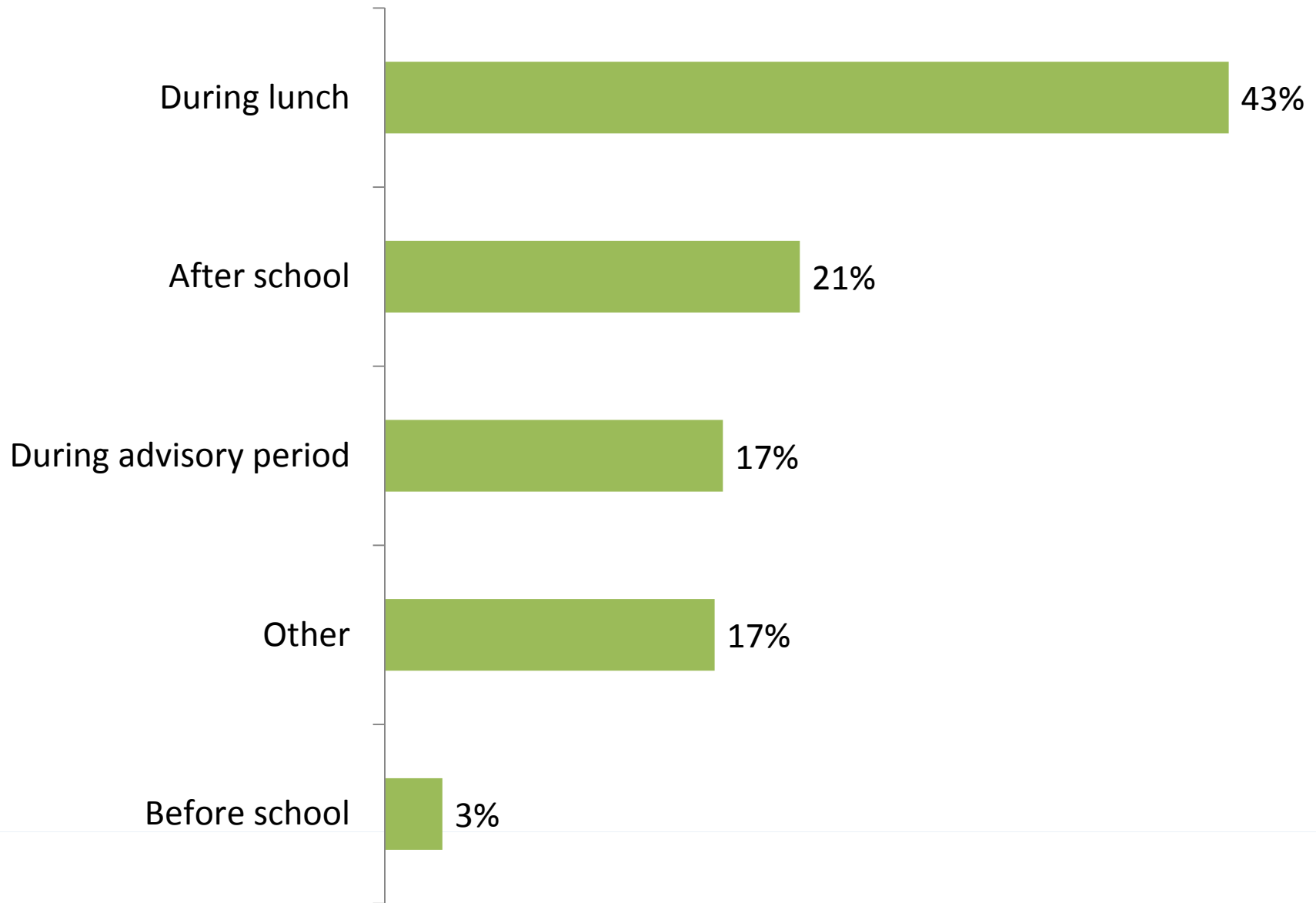
- Community-building
- Engagement of hard-to-reach students
- Platform for sustainability topics

Based on your best guess, what percentage of NYC public schools had a green team in the 2017/18 school year?



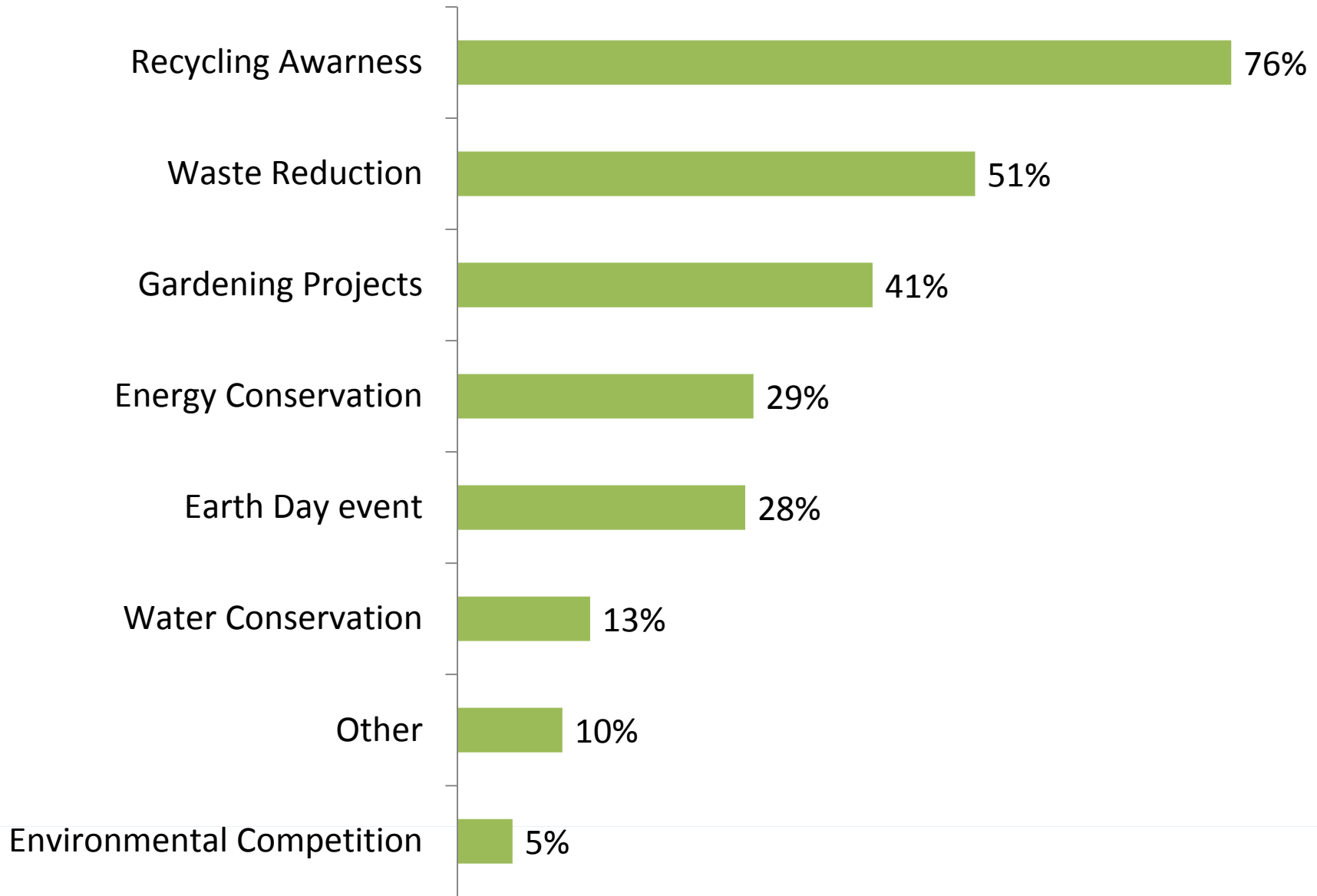
Source: Annual Survey of Sustainability Coordinators (2018)

When did the Green Team meet?



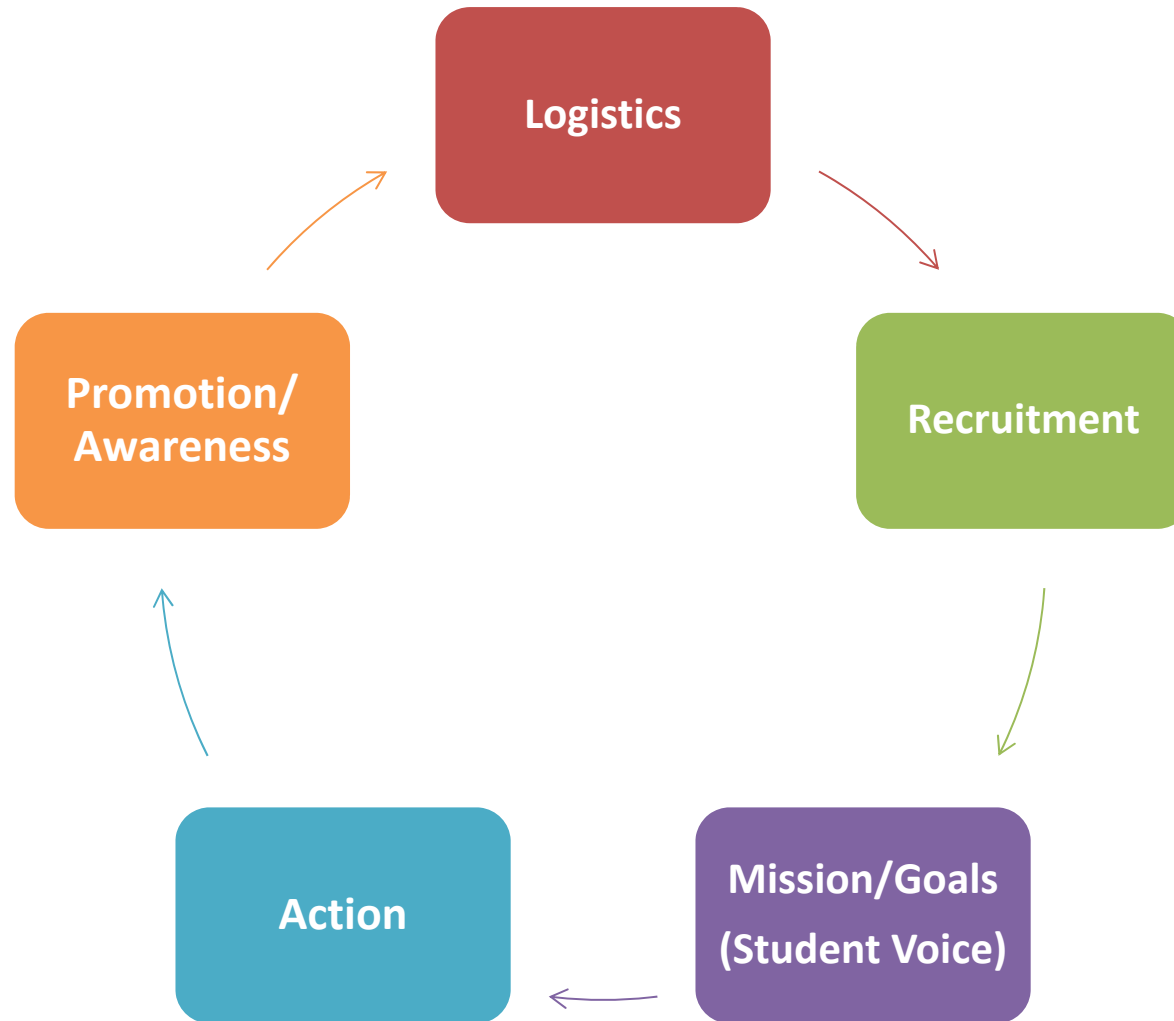
Source: Annual Survey of Sustainability Coordinators (2018)

Projects by student Green Team



Source: Annual Survey of Sustainability Coordinators (2018)

How to Build and Sustain a Green Team



Logistics

Logistics

- 1. Consult your Principal** (green team goals, benefits, meeting times and location)
- 2. Inform Adult Stakeholders** (Custodian, Principal, Teachers, SchoolFood, etc.)
- 3. Gather resources**
- 4. Decide on recruitment procedures**
- 5. Set up your first Green Team meeting**

Recruitment

Recruitment

1. Advertise

- Make announcements
- Post flyers
- Word of mouth

2. Decide whether or not there will be an application process

You can start a new club, or build off an existing club!



GREEN TEAM Member Application

Our school is going Zero Waste! This means everyone must do his or her very best to recycle as much as they can, every day. To help your school achieve its Zero Waste goals, we have started a Green Team. If you are a leader, would like to learn how to become one or if you want to support your school's sustainability and recycling efforts, join the Green Team!

Here's what you can expect from joining:

- Go on cool trips to NYC environmental landmarks
- Become an expert in environmental issues
- Influence change in your school
- Earn community service credits
- Work on projects
- Make new friends
- Have fun!

If you are interested in being a Green Team member, please complete the form below and return it to _____ in room _____ no later than _____

Name: _____ Class: _____

Have you volunteered before? (Circle one): Yes No

If yes, please describe this experience. If no, explain why being a leader for sustainability in your school is important.

What kind of projects and activities would you like to do with your Green Team?

Describe how you would like to see your school change for the better.



**Mission/Goals
(Student Voice)**

Mission/Goals
(Student Voice)

- 1. Set achievable goals for the school year**
- 2. Create club mission statement and team name**
- 3. Vote on student roles (President, Vice President, Secretary, etc.)**
- 4. Track student attendance**

Mission Statement Example

The mission of the CPEHS green team is to promote sustainability and environmentally-conscious practices inside and outside of our school. We explore and support sustainability efforts such recycling, TerraCycling, gardening, composting, and sustainable energy.

– Central Park East High School Green Team



Action

Action

- 1. Improve your school and community**
 - Beautify your space, or address a need
- 2. Identify school's needs**
 - Survey students' interests
 - Address needs in community
- 3. Lead projects** related to waste, energy, gardening, water conservation, health and more!



**Promotion/
Awareness**



Promotion/
Awareness

1. Share your work!

- Bulletin boards
- Videos and presentations
- Advocacy campaigns
- Newsletter, websites, newspaper
- Announcements
- Competitions/contests

2. Get the school and community involved

3. Join Zero Waste Schools website



Energy: Green Team Projects

Connect with your CE!

Ask your CE to be a part of the Green Team

- Boiler room tour
- Silly Sweater Day



The Oakland Gardens School – PS 203Q
53-11 Springfield Boulevard
Bayside, New York 11364
P: 718-423-8652 F: 718-423-8713
www.oaklandgardens203.org @PS203Q

Al-Husi Chang-Lau, Assistant Principal Deborah A. Florio, Principal Debra Halperin, Parent Coordinator

SILLY SWEATER DAY!

hoodies and sweatshirts too

We'll turn down the heat on

Wed. November 29th and

Conserve Energy by wearing a

Silly / Fun Sweater or Hoodie!



Wear your favorite fun sweater as part of our

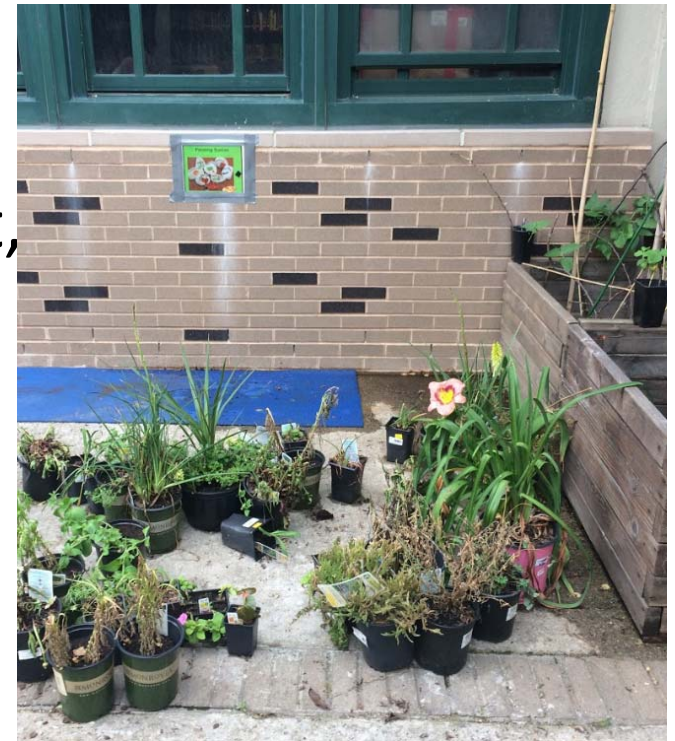
Energy Reduction Challenge



Gardening: Green Team Projects

Gardening/Ecology:

- Create a potted plant garden
- Start a vermiculture bin
- Adopt a street tree (compost, plant, and more!)



WATER: Green Team Projects

Campaigns:

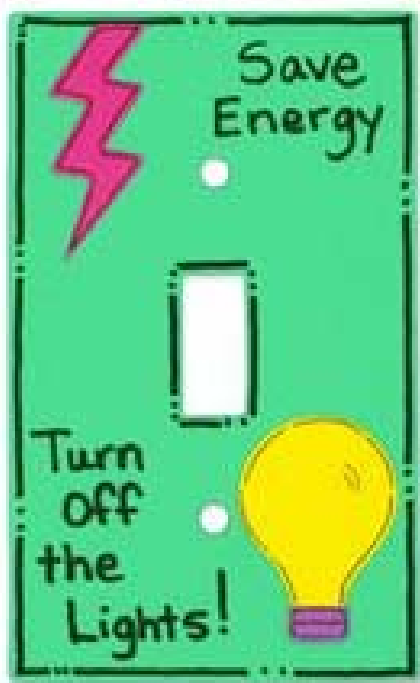
- Green Team PA Announcements
- Bulletin board calendars with daily tips & events
 - Lights out!
 - Plastic free day



GARDENING: Green Team Projects

Get Creative:

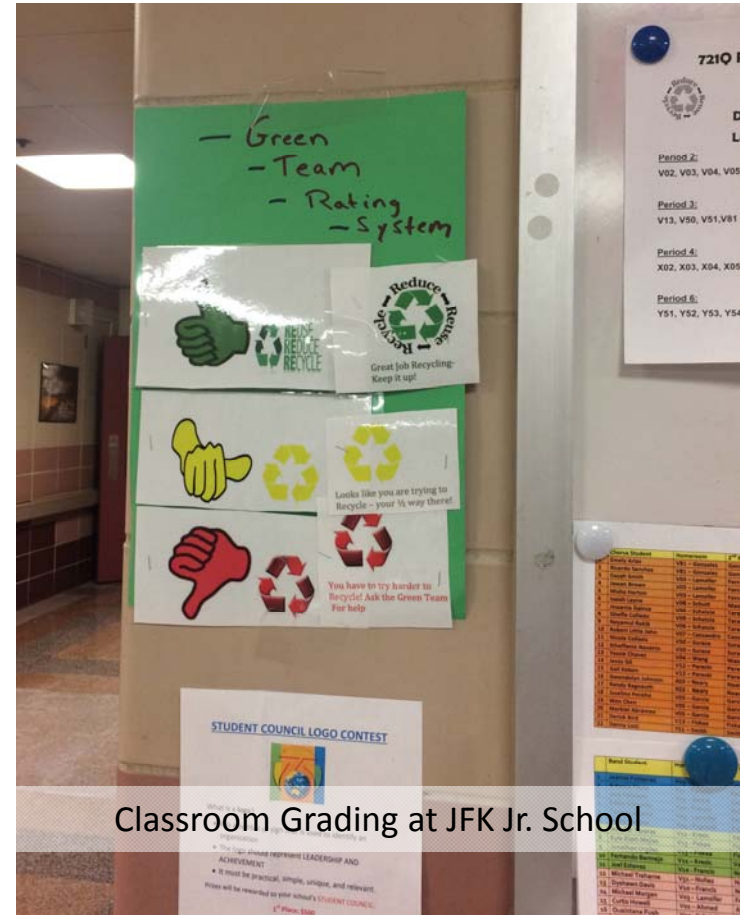
- Recycling signs & bins
- Light switch & A/C labels



Green Team Projects

Classroom Audits:

- Recycling & Energy
- Competitions



Classroom Grading at JFK Jr. School

What are the biggest challenges to forming/running a green team?

Challenges

Research shows that **lack of time, resources, credibility** as well as limited **buy-in** from staff and teachers are the biggest challenges for green teams.

Buy-in Challenges

“I’m not sure if my admin, custodian, etc. will be on board”

Talk it out!

- Set up a meeting with all parties to explain your plan and how to achieve it

Explain how and why it benefits school stakeholders:

- Align with school mission statement
- Compliance with Chancellor’s Regulation A-850, and local laws
- Development of student skills
- Earn money for your school (grants/contests)
- Beautification your space; enhancement of morale

Time Constraints

“How can I find time when there is none?”

Homeroom

Club period

Elective class

At YOUR discretion - lunch or prep

Professional period (circular 6)

Before the school day (zero period)

After school (ask for per-session)

Consistency is key!

Lack of Resources

“I don’t have funding for materials!”

Get creative!

- Reuse items/ visit Materials for the Arts (MFTA)

Speak with school staff (teachers, custodians, teachers from neighboring schools, parents) for extra materials

Apply for grants, awards, or fundraisers!

- DOE Sustainability Grant
- DOE Energy Challenge
- PTA
- Department of Sanitation New York (DSNY)
- Local Businesses

DOE Sustainability Resource Portal

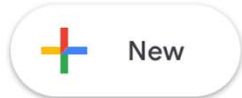
<http://bit.ly/SustainabilityResourcePortal>



Search Drive



Shared with me > Sustainability Resource Portal



- My Drive
- Team Drives









- Shared with me
- Recent
- Starred
- Trash

Storage
38.4 GB used












Name ↑	Owner	Last modified	Size
_Office of Sustainability Documents	NYCDOE Sustainabil...	Oct 1, 2018	—
Community Outreach & School Culture	NYCDOE Sustainabil...	Aug 28, 2018	—
Education_Lesson Plans and Activities	NYCDOE Sustainabil...	Aug 27, 2018	—
Energy	NYCDOE Sustainabil...	Aug 24, 2018	—
Gardening	NYCDOE Sustainabil...	Aug 27, 2018	—
Student Leadership	NYCDOE Sustainabil...	Aug 24, 2018	—
Waste and Recycling	NYCDOE Sustainabil...	Aug 27, 2018	—
Water and Green Infrastructure	NYCDOE Sustainabil...	Aug 27, 2018	—
Wellness	NYCDOE Sustainabil...	Aug 27, 2018	—

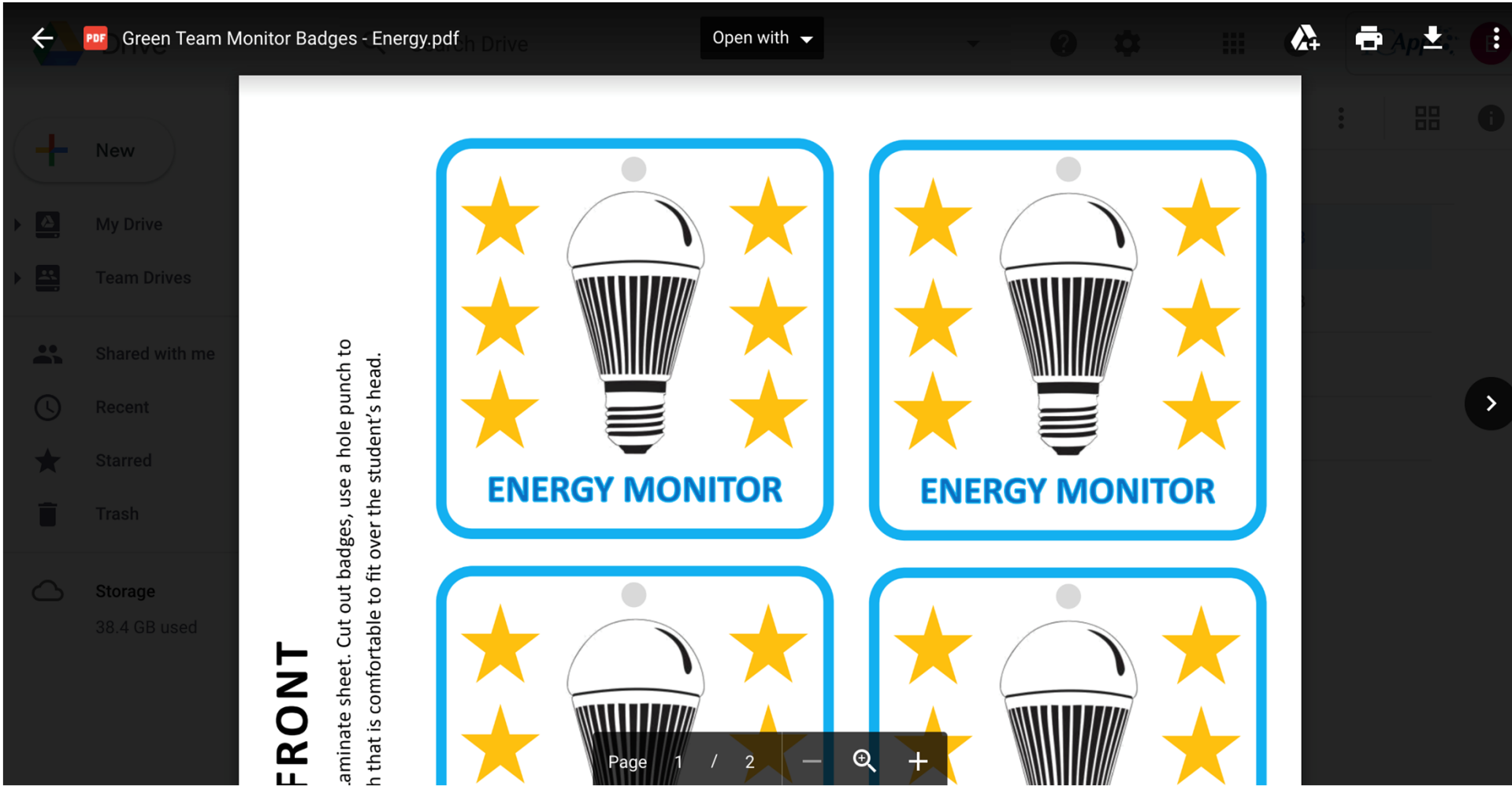
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 Advocacy	NYCDOE Sustainabil...	Aug 24, 2018	—
 Cafeteria Monitors	NYCDOE Sustainabil...	Aug 24, 2018	—
 Classroom Monitors	NYCDOE Sustainabil...	Aug 24, 2018	—
 Green Team	NYCDOE Sustainabil...	Aug 24, 2018	—
 Building Effective Peer Mentoring_MentoringReso... 	NYCDOE Sustainabil...	Aug 24, 2018	2 MB
 Recycling Morning Announcements.pdf 	NYCDOE Sustainabil...	Aug 24, 2018	448 KB

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Name 	Owner	Last modified	Size
 Green Team Monitor Badges - Energy.pdf 	DSF Sustainability	Sep 21, 2018	323 KB
 Green Team Monitor Badges - Recycling.pdf 	NYCDOE Sustainabil...	Sep 21, 2018	315 KB
 green_team_member_application.pdf 	NYCDOE Sustainabil...	Aug 24, 2018	43 KB
 green_team_sign-in_sheet.pdf 	NYCDOE Sustainabil...	Aug 24, 2018	78 KB
 The Green Team Guide - RCP.pdf 	NYCDOE Sustainabil...	Aug 24, 2018	10 MB



FRONT

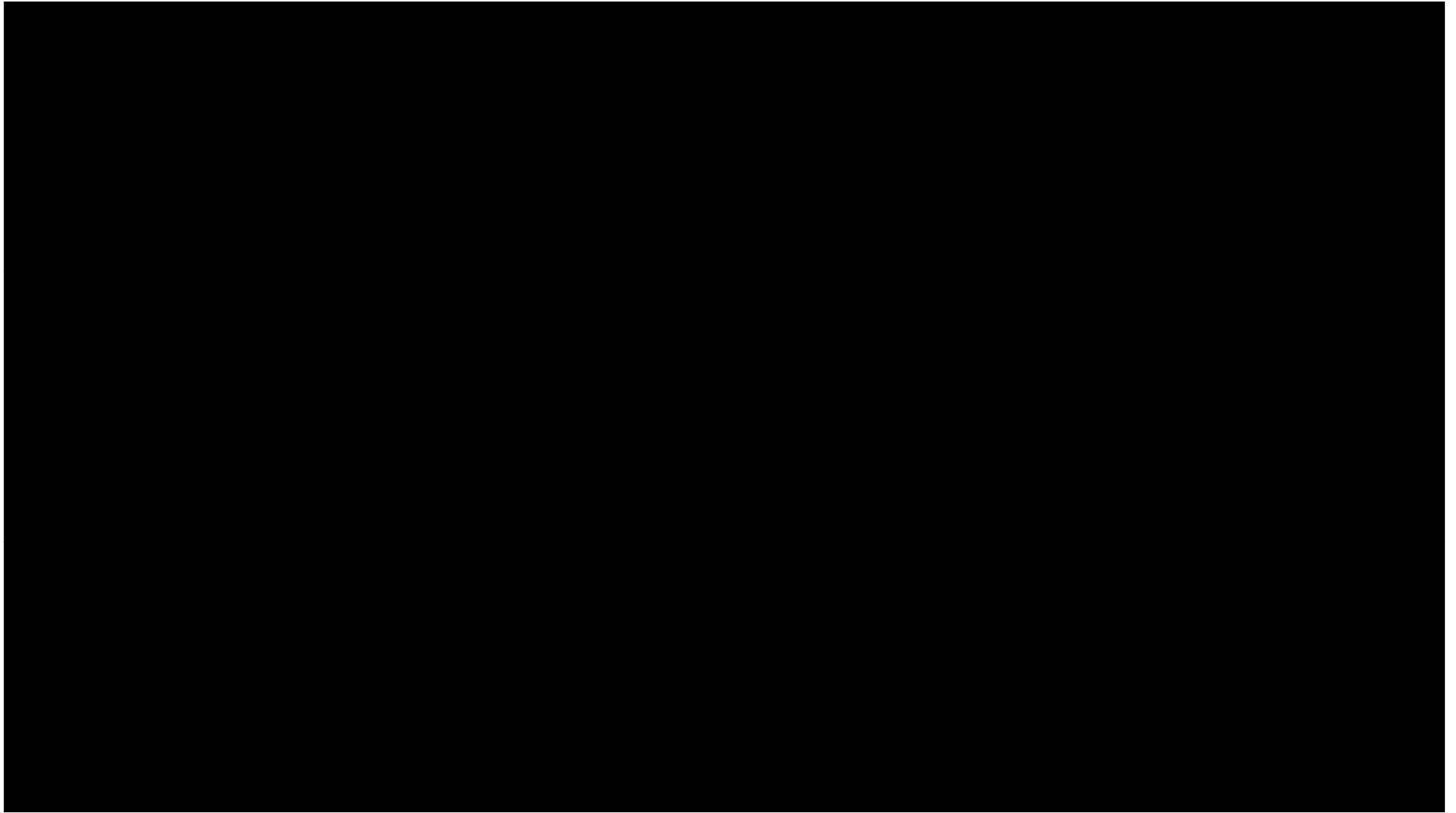
laminate sheet. Cut out badges, use a hole punch to
 h that is comfortable to fit over the student's head.

Additional Opportunities

Sustainability Mentorship Program

- Receive one-on-one support from Jody Reiss, a former DOE teacher and experienced Sustainability Coordinator!
- Application due: October 16, 2018.

Zankel Fellowship



Questions & Answers

Thank you for joining us today!

**We hope to see you again in
future webinars**



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Stick around if you want...

To sign up for the Zero Waste Website

Information on Zero Waste Pledge Schools

To Apply for the Sustainability Mentorship Program

Any other assistance!

Sources

- Disterheft, A. et al. (2015) Sustainable Universities: a study of critical success factors for participatory approaches. *Journal of Cleaner Production*, 106 (11), 11-21.
- Jabbour, et al. (2013). Green teams: understanding their role in environmental management in companies located in Brazil. *Journal of Cleaner Production*, 46 (59), 58-66.
- Kay, et al. (2018). Green teams: a collaborative training model. *Journal of Cleaner Production*, 176, 909-919.
- Nyper, L. S. & Dymond, S. K. (2012). Green team to the rescue. *National Science Teachers Association*, 49 (7), 41-45.